
THE VOLUNTEER REGION AACA

BEYOND THE LIMIT



vraaca.com



volunteerregionaaca@gmail.com



[volunteerregionaaca](https://www.instagram.com/volunteerregionaaca)



[Volunteer Region AACA](https://www.facebook.com/VolunteerRegionAACA)

2026 OFFICERS & BOARD

OFFICERS

President:

RG Lewallen
lewallenrg@gmail.com

Vice President:

Ken Lund
kjlund71@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Tom Howard
sistom60@gmail.com

Secretary:

Debbie Hixon
ourdogeli@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Roger Frazee
rkfrazee@gmail.com

National Liaison:

Rick Lay
layco@bellsouth.net

BOARD

Director:

Jordan Lay
jordanlay120@gmail.com

Director:

Ben Curtis
bscurtis6423@gmail.com

Director:

Herb Thomas
herbthomas7720@comcast.net

Director:

Keith Pierce
clintonbaptistams@gmail.com



UPCOMING REGION EVENTS



March 28th: Cartersville, GA
National Meet



April 10th-11th: Granville, TN
- Mayberry/Lucy (1 or 2 day event)



See page 5 for full list of events

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS



Stay tuned for emails regarding any upcoming events!

UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS



March 19-21 - 2026 Special Nationals - Guaynabo, Puerto Rico



March 26-28 - 2026 Winter Nationals - Cartersville, Georgia.



April 9-11 - 2026 Southeastern Spring Nationals - Charlotte, NC.



April 23-25 - 2026 Western Spring Nationals/Grand National - Las Vegas, Nevada.



Check out full 2026 Calendar on page 15



NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The big news for the Volunteer Region at the AACA National Convention in Chantilly, VA was our own Roger and Jan Frazee winning the Factory High Performance Award for the Eastern Division at the National Awards Banquet on Saturday night! Over 200 vehicles were looked at by the National Awards Team in 2025 and only 220 were nominated for one of the 71 Awards given out. Congratulations, Roger and Jan for being one of those 71!



The Volunteer Regions folks also received our Charter from Phil Cole, our 2025 VP of Development and Support for the Southeastern Division. Phil is our AACA Executive VP for 2026, meaning he will be our National President in 2027! Phil is presenting RG with the charter as L to R: Rick Lay, Tom Howard, Sherry Lewallen, and Roger and Jan Frazee look on.



PRESIDENTIAL PARTINGS

What a winter we have been having, too much cold and too much snow for me. I am ready for spring and can't wait for some warmer weather! Well, after two postponements we did finally get to hold our January planning meeting (although it became a February planning meeting) we had a great turnout and have an exciting year now planned on the calendar! See this year's schedule listed in this edition of "Beyond the Limit" publication.

February 5th through the 7th we had six from our Volunteer Region attend the AACA Annual meeting in Chantilly, VA where I had the privilege of accepting our Certificate of Charter from Phillip Cole, Director Southeast Regions Development & Support. On Saturday during the awards banquet Roger and Jan Frazee were awarded the High-Performance National Award for their 1963 Corvair Spyder Turbo! Congratulations to Roger & Jan!

We had a great turn out at our first monthly event where we had the privilege of taking a tour through the University of Tennessee sports complex. What a great event that was hosted by Kenny & Terry Widener and UT Historian Emeritus Bud Ford.

Our planned event for March is the AACA National meet in Cartersville, GA. This will be a great time to attend a national meet close enough to us that we can drive in one day. There is also planned activities for everyone to visit downtown Cartersville where you can discover boutique shopping, local art, and historic sites. For the car folks, you can visit the Savoy Automobile Museum or Old Car City.



By RG Lewallen, President

PRESIDENTIAL PARTINGS CONTINUED

I would like to thank Jordan Lay for all her work on making "Beyond the Limit" possible. Jordan, your work in putting together this publication is much appreciated. I would also like to encourage all our members to be thinking of articles that you would like to see published as Jordan is always looking for articles to be published in our newsletter.

June will be here before you know it and there is still time to help with our upcoming meet in Oak Ridge. If you have not signed up and would like to help with our AACA National meet, make sure to let one of the team members know or you can contact Roger or Jan Frazee.

Sherry & I hope to see you soon.

RG



THE VOLUNTEER REGION AACA 2026 SCHEDULED MONTHLY TOURS

FEBRUARY 21ST: Tour of UT sports facilities. Calhoun's for lunch.

Host: Kenny and Terry Widener

MARCH 28th: Cartersville, GA National Meet

Host: Jan & Roger Frazee, Jean & Ken Lund

APRIL 10-11th: Granville TN, Mayberry/Lucy (1 or 2 day event)

Host: Beth and Brad Harris

MAY 2ND: Tour Oak Ridge Museums. K-25 and Oak Ridge History Museum. Lunch at Big Ed's.

Host: Beverly and Robbie Gray

JUNE 11-13TH: Southeaster Fall Nationals, Oak Ridge TN

JULY 18TH: Scopes Monkey Trial, Dayton TN

Host: Beth and Brad Harris

Autos Through the Ages, Townsend TN

Host: Ken & Jen Lund

AUGUST 29TH: Tour of DaisyTown, TN

Host: Debbie and Jimmie Hixson

SEPTEMBER 12TH: Rick Lay Athens garage tour.

Host: Jordan and Rick Lay

OCTOBER 17TH: Cumberland Gap Tour. Rose gas station. National AirStream, Middlesboro Cruise-in.

Hosts: Cindy & Scott Hill, Debbie & Keith Bullen

NOVEMBER: Annual Business Meeting

DECEMBER: Volunteer Region Christmas Party to be held at Museum of Appalachia.

THE VOLUNTEER REGION TOURS THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SPORTS FACILITY

On Saturday, February 21, 2026 the Volunteer Region AACA enjoyed a fun and very informative trip to the University of Tennessee Athletic facilities. Our tour was led by Bud Ford, the University's Historian Emeritus. Mr. Ford began his career at UT in 1964 and is a wealth of information. Having known many coaches, athletes, sports writers and others he always has a story to tell and we learned many inside details that we would have never been able to hear because of his knowledge.

We visited the Pratt Pavilion which houses the basketball practice facilities, the Tennessee Hall of Champions/indoor football practice facilities, called the Neyland/Thompson Sports Center and the Peyton Manning Room. An additional treat was seeing the media facilities and athletic health services center. We had about 30 in attendance. The trip was a great opportunity to meet club members and make new friends. Be sure to attend our next excursion!



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

TOUR OF UT SPORTS FACILITY



TOUR OF UT SPORTS FACILITY



MEETING YOUR ICONS

We all have them – those people we admire or were important to us in our lives. In the 70s, I was all about music – top 40 rock, mainly, and one of my favorite groups was The Grass Roots. As I went to Tennessee Wesleyan in the mid-70's, I constantly had 99 WNOX in Knoxville tuned in on my AM car radio. The Rock of Knox was how “Disco Dick” Winstead described the station during his daily radio show. The Grass Roots had top 40 hits like Midnight Confessions, Sooner or Later, Two Divided by Love, Temptation Eyes and others.



Pictured L to R: Rick Lay, and Gene and Lynda Wall at the AACA Annual Convention (photo by RG Lewallen)

So the Lay family is in Galveston, TX for the AACA Central Fall Nationals at the Friday night social featuring The Fab Five, a cover band out of Houston when one of the Fab Five explains who they are and that they have opened for Three Dog Night, Peter Noone of Herman's Hermits and The Grass Roots and then goes on to say, “and with us in the room tonight is Gene Wall, former keyboardist for The Grass Roots. Well.. the next night at the Awards Banquet, who should we get to sit with but.. you guessed it.. Gene Wall. I was so mesmerized and intent on listening to Gene's stories that I forgot to get my picture with him! But... as fate would have it, he won The Bomgardner Award for the Central Division with his 1969 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 and I got to see and visit with him again in Chantilly at the Annual Convention and also meet his wife, Lynda. Gene was kind enough to send me some photos after he got home of he and the other band members playing a concert in 1975 in New York. Gene left California many years ago and now lives in the Houston, TX area where he is active in the Gulf Coast Region of AACA. So, sometimes you do get to meet your icons – folks you could have never imagined you would ever get to meet – all because of the old car hobby! Having gotten his First Junior in Galveston, Gene is thinking about bringing the Camaro to Oak Ridge to compete for his Senior. I hope he decides to come! Oh – and thanks to RG for reminding me to get a photo this time – and many thanks for taking it!

Gene Wall – 1969 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28



Bomgardner Award – Central Division

AACA REVISES FIRE APPARATUS JUDGING STANDARDS

At a meeting of the AACA Judging Committee held in conjunction with the 2026 Annual Convention at Chantilly, VA this past February, the Committee updated how fire vehicles will be judged effective immediately. The Fire Vehicle Class, Class 23, is defined as: "Self-propelled vehicles used for fighting fires. This includes pumpers, chemical wagons, hose trucks, brush buggies, ladder trucks and deluge wagons. Personnel carriers are included in a previously mentioned class. No ATV's or water-bound vehicles will be allowed." The vehicles allowed on the show field are through the current cut-off year (which is 2001 this year). The change is in effect an Addendum to Section 2, Item 5e of the 2026 Official Judging Guidelines and reads as follows:

Fire vehicles are often returned to the manufacturer for updates, many of which are federally mandated. These updates should be documented, and the vehicle will be judged based on the updated vehicle not the original year of construction. Only factory supplied ancillary equipment will be allowed for judging. Non-factory supplied ancillary equipment will result in deductions.

The 1947 American LaFrance Pumper was presented with this year's Peterson Fire Apparatus Award at the 2026 National Awards Banquet in Chantilly. The Alert Engine, Hook & Ladder & Hose, Co. #1 Inc. took the honors and several of the organizations members assembled on stage in their dress uniforms to accept the Award from AACA President Dave Anspach.

Alert Engine, Hook & Ladder & Hose Co. #1 Inc. 1947 American LaFrance Pumper



Peterson Fire Apparatus Award

VOLUNTEER REGION AACA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SHONEY'S IN POWELL, TN
JANUARY 8, 2025

OFFICERS

President: RG Lewallen, Present
Vice President: Ken Lund, via telephone
Secretary: Debbie Hixon, Present
Treasurer: Tom Howard, Present
Past President: None

BOARD

Director: Jordan Lay, Present
Director: Ben Curtis, Present
Director: Herb Thomas, Present
Director: Keith Pierce, Excused Absence

GUESTS

Rick Lay, National AACA Liaison
Susan Thomas
Sherry Lewallen
Jimmie Hixon
Roger Frazee

CALL TO ORDER

Volunteer Region President, RG Lewallen, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Secretary, Debbie Hixson, made roll call. All officers and board members and guests present as listed above.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous board meeting/annual business meeting were previously presented to each officer and board member. No changes or additions were recommended. Rick Lay made a motion to accept these minutes as presented. Tom Howard seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

MONTHLY TOUR REPORT

Ken Lund was present via telephone call.

The Christmas party at the Museum of Appalachia was a great success. No negative comments were received.

The Volunteer Region January planning meeting will be held Sunday, January 24, 2026 at the Knox County Association of Baptist at 1:00 pm. Ken will email a reminder to all members of the meeting. Discussion of whether to have a box lunch was carried out. Ben Curtis made a motion to have B & G catering prepare box lunches for the event. The motion was seconded by Tom Howard. None opposed.

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

The motion carried. Sherry Lewallen will get the cost of the lunches and members will be notified of the lunch choices and price. These will be paid for at the time of the event.

Volunteer Region President, RG Lewallen, will open the planning meeting and explain the purpose of the meeting and then turn it over to Ken Lund for planning events. Ken will encourage member participation in tour events. A dry erase board will be available for use. Secretary, Debbie Hixson, will take minutes of the meeting.

The February event is in planning stages for a tour of UT athletic facilities tentatively on February 21, 2026.

Ken Lund also stated we have a lot of new members in the Volunteer Region who have never participated in a National AACA Meet. Suggested members who have won in the past bring their awards to display. Rick Lay will explain the details of a National AACA meet.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Secretary, Debbie Hixson, gave the latest update on membership. Currently we have 47 families in The Volunteer Region. Two new member applications were presented today, Casey & Melanie Skelton along with Scott & Stephanie Miller. Debbie Hixson made a motion to accept Casey & Melanie Skelton into membership. Keith Pierce seconded the motion. None opposed.

The motion carried. Debbie Hixson made a motion to accept Scott & Stephanie Miller into membership. Keith Pierce seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Tom Howard, presented the current financial report. A copy was given to each member present. Tom will open a second bank account for the National AACA meet. The financial report was discussed. A motion to accept the financial report as presented was made by Ben Curtis. Herb Thomas seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

WEBMASTER REPORT

Roger Frazee stated the web site is getting more and more hits. The cost to maintain the web site is \$157.90 for 12 months. This will be due mid year 2026. Ben Curtis made a motion to accept the Webmaster report as presented. Keith Pierce seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Jordan Lay states the latest edition of the newsletter is ready for distribution. Jordan is working on social media getting everything updated. Jordan will hold off sending out the latest edition of the newsletter until after Cabin Fever so this will be included.

If anyone has any articles for the newsletter Jordan will need those by this weekend. Tom Howard made a motion to accept all social media and newsletter updates as presented. Ben Curtis seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Rick Lay gave an update on National AACA. The annual convention in Chantilly, Virginia is upcoming. Seventy-one vehicles will receive national awards this year. Roger Frazee will be getting an award. Also preparation is underway for the Southeastern Regional Fall Meet in Oak Ridge hosted by The Volunteer Region. There is a full schedule for this year.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL FALL MEET UPDATE

Roger Frazee states plans for the meet are coming together. Need to push the ads for the event. A total of \$2,730 ads sold at this point. Ad sales will be cut off at the end of February in order to get the book together in time for the meet.

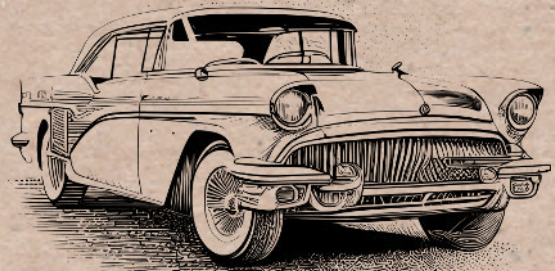
Roger Frazee and Debbie Hixson are working on a bus tour and a trip to Brushy Mountain Prison. The break even cost for the bus tour with Ray Smith narrating the tour is \$45 per person. More information to follow. The prison tour is still in the planning stages and will be updated as soon as possible.

Jan Frazee is working on an ice cream social to be held on Friday night of the meet. A jazz quartet will be playing music from the WWII era for 2 hours at a cost of \$500.00.

Roger Frazee also is in contact with Smoky Mountain Service Dog Association who train dogs for disabled vets. More information on this to follow.

NEW BUSINESS

President, RG Lewallen, handed out a copy of a Standard Operating Procedure from another club for members to look over. This will be discussed at a later meeting. One topic discussed today was reimbursement for members who host a tour. If hosts are reimbursed \$50.00 for a tour, the cost for 10 tours for the year would be \$500.00 for The Volunteer Region. Not all tour hosts ask for a reimbursement. Keith Pierce made a motion to give \$50.00 reimbursement for tour hosts. If cost is over \$50.00 this must be presented to the Board for approval prior to event. Ben Curtis seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion passed.



OLD BUSINESS

CABIN FEVER UPDATE: Lots of cars entered in this year's event. About 180 cars are expected. Volunteers from our club have signed up to work the Volunteer Region booth. This is a great opportunity for our club to grow. Six complimentary memberships are available. Veteran complimentary applications are also available. Complimentary memberships have to be a new AACA member.

It had been previously discussed to have the new charter for the Volunteer Region to be presented at the January planning meeting but since we are a new club with limited funds it was decided to hold off on this. Hopefully can do the presentation at the annual meeting in Virginia. Jordan Lay made a motion to have an informal presentation of the charter at the annual meeting in Virginia. Herb Thomas seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

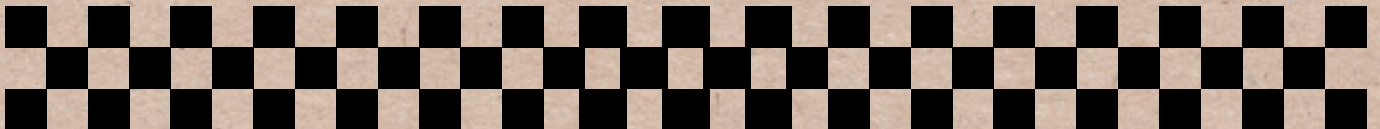
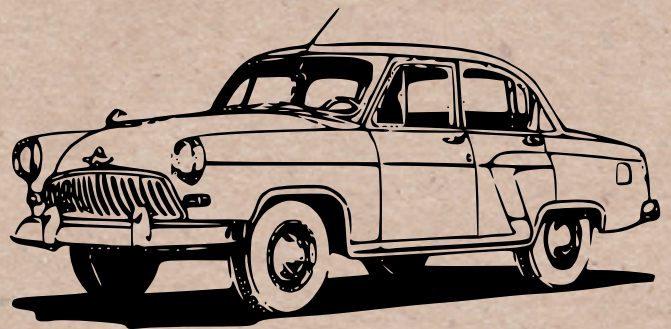
BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Ben Curtis made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:45 pm. Herb Thomas seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURN

Herb Thomas made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:00pm. Tom Howard seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DEBBIE HIXSON, SECRETARY



2026 AACA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2026 Annual Convention

February 5-7 ▪ Chantilly, VA
Steve Rossi, sldmrossi@aol.com

2026 Eastern Spring Nationals

May 28-30 ▪ Indiana, PA
Paul Colligan, thefarmrv@windstream.net

2026 Special Nationals

March 19-21 ▪ Guaynabo, PR
Jose Davila, guilodavila57@gmail.com

2026 Southeastern Fall Nationals

June 11-13 ▪ Oak Ridge, TN
Roger Frazee, rkfrazee@gmail.com

2026 Winter Nationals

March 26-28 ▪ Cartersville, GA
Kraig Bolus, kbolus3@gmail.com

2026 Sentimental Tour

June 15-19 ▪ Mechanicsburg, PA
Don Barlup, pullman1914@aol.com

2026 Southern Spring Nationals

April 9-11 ▪ Charlotte, NC
Phillip Cole, pcole@wnccumc.net

2026 Central Spring Nationals

July 23-25 ▪ Green Bay, WI
Russ Walker, rusellwalker@aol.com

2026 Western Spring Nationals/Grand Nationals

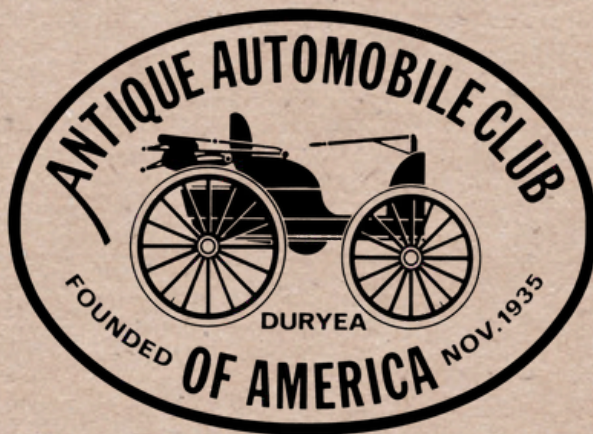
April 23-25 ▪ Las Vegas, NV
Micael Fecchino, chevyfordply@gmail.com

2026 Grand Nationals/Zenith

August 19-22 ▪ Allentown, PA
Steve Moskowitz, aaca1@aaca.org

2026 Founders Tour

September 9-14 ▪ Williamsburg, VA
Scott Dayton, smdayton40@gmail.com

**2026 80th Revival AAA Glidden Tour (AACA)**

September 20-26 ▪ Dover, DE
Dave Anspach, aacadave1054@yahoo.com

2026 Eastern Fall Nationals

October 6-9 ▪ Hershey, PA
Bonnie Kulikowski, bonnieshepp1925@gmail.com